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Order 2000-6-16

Served: June 29, 2000



**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Issued by the Department of Transportation
on the 27th day of June, 2000

Essential Air Service at

PUEBLO, COLORADO

Under 49 U.S.C. 41731 *et seq.*

Docket OST-1999-6589-7

ORDER EXTENDING SERVICE OBLIGATION

Summary

By this order, the Department is extending Great Lakes' service obligation at Pueblo, Colorado, for an additional 30 days, through July 31, 2000.

Background

On December 2, 1999, Great Lakes Aviation, Ltd., d/b/a United Express (Great Lakes), filed a 90-day notice of its intent to suspend its subsidy-free service at Pueblo, effective March 1, 2000. Great Lakes currently provides three Alamosa-Pueblo-Denver round trips a day. By Order 2000-2-25, February 22, 2000, the Department prohibited Great Lakes from suspending service at the community for an initial 30-day period and stated that we would issue subsequent 30-day hold-in orders until we could secure replacement service. That order also requested proposals from carriers interested in providing replacement service. As required by 49 U.S.C. 41734, we have extended Great Lakes' service obligation for additional 30-day periods, the latest through June 30, 2000, by Order 2000-5-25.

Since it is unlikely this case will be concluded before the end of the current 30-day hold-in period, as required by 49 U.S.C. 41734, we are extending Great Lakes' service obligation for an additional 30 days, or until replacement service actually begins, whichever occurs first.

This order is issued under authority assigned in 14 CFR 385.12(k)(5).

ACCORDINGLY,

1. The Department requires Great Lakes Aviation, Ltd., d/b/a United Express, to maintain essential air service at Pueblo, Colorado, consisting of three nonstop round trips a day six

days a week to Denver, for an additional 30-day period, through July 31, 2000, or until a carrier capable of providing reliable replacement service actually begins, whichever occurs first;¹

2. The Department directs Great Lakes to retain all books, records, and other source and summary documents to support subsidy claims for payment and to preserve and maintain such documentation in a manner that readily permits its audit and examination by representatives of the Department. Such documentation shall be retained for seven years or until the Department indicates that the records may be destroyed. Copies of flight logs for aircraft sold or disposed of must be retained. The carrier may forfeit its compensation for any claim that is not supported under the terms of this order;

3. Docket OST-1999-6589 will remain open until further order of the Department; and

4. The Department will serve a copy of this order on the City Manager and Airport Manager of Pueblo, Colorado; and Great Lakes Aviation, Ltd., d/b/a United Express.

Persons entitled to petition the Department for review of this order under the Department's Regulations, 14 CFR 385.50, must file such petitions within ten days after the date of service of this order.

This order will be effective immediately, and the filing of a petition for review shall not preclude its effectiveness.

By:

RANDALL D. BENNETT
Acting Director
Office of Aviation Analysis

(SEAL)

*An electronic version of this document is available on the World Wide Web at
<http://dms.dot.gov>*

¹ In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 41734(c), we will extend Great Lakes' service obligation for successive 30-day periods as necessary until replacement service actually begins.